

**From:** [Al Armendariz](#)  
**To:** [Sam Coleman](#); [Mathy Stanislaus](#); [Dana Tulis](#); [Al Armendariz](#); [Mark Hansen](#); [Sam Coleman](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Hospital treating 7 oil spill cleanup boat crewmen | NOLA.com  
**Date:** 05/27/2010 11:56 AM

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Two issues: yes, workers need to be trained. We should push hard on this, and support OSHA inspections on the beaches.

And no, the exposures are highly unlikely to be related to dispersants. Those chemicals are much less volatile and much less toxic than crude oil. Dispersants are the least of their worry. It the sun, heat, moon suits, and oil.

Al

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**From:** Sam Coleman  
**Sent:** 05/27/2010 12:52 PM EDT  
**To:** Mathy Stanislaus; "Dana Tulis" <[tulis.dana@epa.gov](mailto:tulis.dana@epa.gov)>; "Al Armendariz" <[armendariz.al@epa.gov](mailto:armendariz.al@epa.gov)>; Mark Hansen; "Sam Coleman" <[coleman.sam@epa.gov](mailto:coleman.sam@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fw: Hospital treating 7 oil spill cleanup boat crewmen | NOLA.com

This is a very important question.

The answer seems to be "maybe" depending on waste characterization.

We need to respond fairly quickly based on the current situation.

Do we need the entire waste plan to be resolved before we require characterization? I recommend requiring that now. And have other issues to follow quickly.

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Sent by EPA Wireless E-Mail Services

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**From:** "Hughes, Chip (NIH/NIEHS) [E]" [hughes3@niehs.nih.gov]  
**Sent:** 05/27/2010 12:44 PM AST  
**To:** Sam Coleman  
**Cc:** "Barab, Jordan - OSHA" <Barab.Jordan@dol.gov>; "Berkowitz, Deborah - OSHA" <Berkowitz.Deborah@dol.gov>; "Lurie, Nicole (OS)" <Nicole.Lurie@hhs.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Hospital treating 7 oil spill cleanup boat crewmen | NOLA.com

Sam:

Does EPA consider water-borne weathered crude and beached crude to be a hazardous waste (29 CFR 1910.120) either under CERCLA or RCRA?

This would be helpful to know in terms of determining appropriate hazwoper jurisdiction for response workers in vessels, on the shoreline and on the beach and marshes.

Serious exposure questions need to be clarified in terms of level of protection and respirator use and medical surveillance.

It sounds like BP is realizing this too and proposing a 500 meter hot zone where only 40 hr trained workers will be allowed to work around oil products.

Any clarification would be appreciated.

Chip

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**From:** Coleman.Sam@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Coleman.Sam@epamail.epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 27, 2010 12:37 PM  
**To:** Hughes, Chip (NIH/NIEHS) [E]  
**Cc:** Barab, Jordan - OSHA; Berkowitz, Deborah - OSHA; Lurie, Nicole (OS)  
**Subject:** Re: Hospital treating 7 oil spill cleanup boat crewmen | NOLA.com

Thanks.

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From: "Hughes, Chip (NIH/NIEHS) [E]" <hughes3@niehs.nih.gov>  
To: "Berkowitz, Deborah - OSHA" <Berkowitz.Deborah@dol.gov>  
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Date: 05/27/2010 11:30 AM

Subject: Hospital treating 7 oil spill cleanup boat crewmen | NOLA.com

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[http://www.nola.com/news/gulf-oil-spill/index.ssf/2010/05/hospital\\_treating\\_7\\_oil\\_spill.html](http://www.nola.com/news/gulf-oil-spill/index.ssf/2010/05/hospital_treating_7_oil_spill.html)

May have been dispersant exposure?